Free Medical Treatment to AIDS Patients

1148. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are not in a position to provide free medical treatment and medicine to the AIDS affected people in the country;

(b) if so, the details of persons died without proper medical treatment in the country for the past three years, State-wise; and

(c) the details of amount sanctioned and spent in the State of Karnataka on AIDS prevention schemes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No, Sir. Government provides free medical treatment for management of opportunistic infections among HIV/AIDS patients in public sector hospitals. The National AIDS Control Organisation releases funds to the State AIDS Control Societies who in turn release these funds to the respective government hospitals treating HIV/AIDS patients, towards procurement of drugs and medicines for opportunistic infections.

Government also provides anti-retroviral drugs for prevention of parent to child transmission of HIV. This programme is currently being scaled up to all the districts in the high prevalence States (*i.e.* Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu).

The Employees State Insurance (ESI) Corporation is providing anti-retroviral therapy for AIDS patients, prescribed by trained specialists and these drugs are dispensed by the respective ESI dispensaries.

However, antiretroviral therapy for AIDS patients are not supported by Government in the National AIDS Control Programme because of their prohibitive costs, indefinite period of treatment (usually life-long) and other supportive investigations (CD4/CD8 counts, viral load estimation, liver function tests, haemogram, etc) required for monitoring the patient, while on medication.

(b) The State-wise break-up of the number of persons died due to AIDS in the country over the last three years is annexed as Statement. (*see* below) However there are no reports available with the Government regarding lack of proper medical treatment to these cases.

(c) The details of amount sanctioned and spent in the State of Karnataka under the National AIDS Control Programme-Phase II are as follows:

Year	Funds Released	Utilization Reported (Rs. In lakh)
1999-2000	801.67	555.03
2000-2001	398.65	533.57
2001-2002	893.15	783.35
2002-2003	700.00	489.95 (upto 31-12-2002)

Statement

Reported number of deaths due to AIDS during the last three years.

S.No.	State/UT	2000	2001	2002
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	53	36
2	Assam	1	-	2
3	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
4	A&N Islands	7	2	7
5	Bihar	7	1	-
6	Chandigarh	13	29	22
7	Punjab	-	-	2
8	Delhi	24	27	17
9	Daman & Diu	-	-	-
10	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-
11	Goa	3	15	8
12	Gujarat	-	20	46

S.No.	State/UT	2000	2001	2002
13	Haryana	5	-	-
14	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1
15	Jammu & Kashmir	-	-	-
16	Karnataka	19	27	37
17	Kerala	-	-	-
18	Lakshdweep	-	-	-
19	Madhya Pradesh	50	5	7
20	Maharashtra	77	176	271
21	Manipur	17	50	24
22	Mizoram	7	-	5
23	Meghalaya	-	-	-
24	Nagaland	25	28	35
25	Orissa	-	-	-
26	Pondicherry	-	-	-
27	Rajasthan	-	-	-
28	Sikkim	-	-	-
29	Tamil Nadu	119	249	146
30	Tripura	-	-	-
31	Uttar Pradesh	4	15	3
32	West Bengal	-	68	-
33	Ahmedabad MC	-	-	2
34	Mumbai MC	-	-	116
	TOTAL	378	765	787